

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 05026 111522Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSM-03 IO-13 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 /091 W
-----007045 111530Z /42

P R 111420Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7154
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMRMBASSY BUCHAREST UNN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
/USMISSION USUN 4880
USMISSION SINAI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, EG, IS
SUBJECT: BEGIN AND GAMASY EXCHANGE MESSAGES ON EGYPTIAN VIOLATIONS

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. THE GOI PRESS BULLETIN REPORTED
AN EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES THIS PAST WEEKEND BETWEEN PRIME
MINISTER BEGIN AND THE EGYPTIAN MINISTER OF WAR,
GENERAL GAMASY, THROUGH THE GOOD OFFICES OF GENERAL
ENSIO SIILASVUO. THE EXCHANGE WAS SAID TO HAVE
ORIGINATED WITH BEGIN WHEN SIILASVUO CALLED ON HIM
JULY 8 PRIOR TO DEPARTING THE AREA FOR THREE WEEKS OF
HOME LEAVE. THE PRESS BULLETIN DID NOT DESCRIBE THE
CONTENTS OF BEGIN'S MESSAGE BUT INDICATED THAT IT
DEALT WITH ALLEGED EGYPTIAN VIOLATIONS OF THE
SEPARATION OF FORCES AGREEMENT.

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2. SIILASVUO'S SECOND CALL ON BEGIN TO CONVEY
GAMASY'S REPLY IS REPORTED IN THE PRESS BULLETIN
AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT: THIS MORNING (SUNDAY)
GENERAL SIILASVUO RETURNED FROM HIS VISIT TO
EGYPT AND MET THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. NENAHM
BEGIN, TO GIVE HIM A REPORT ON HIS MEETING WITH

GENERAL GAMASY, THE EGYPTIAN MINISTER OF WAR, AND TO BRING BACK HIS REPLY TO PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S REQUEST. THE MISSION WAS DEFINED BY GENERAL SIILASVUO AS SUCCESSFUL. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE AGREEMENTS WOULD INDEED BE CARRIED OUT IN FULL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR WORDING AND SPIRIT. IN HIS REPLY, GENERAL GAMASY EMPHASIZED THAT CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO FULFILL THE AGREEMENTS. PARTICULARLY NOW, SO CLOSE TO THE CONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, IT IS IMPERATIVE FOR ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP THE PEACE AND TO AVOID VIOLATING PREVIOUS AGREEMENTS. END TEXT

3. BOTH MAARIV AND JERUSALEM POST REPORT THE EXCHANGE IN APPROVING TONES. MAARIV SAID THE WORDING OF THE TWO MESSAGES WAS COURTEOUS AND DIGNIFIED, POSSIBLY USHERING IN AN ERA OF GOOD MANNERS TO THIS REGION. THE POST FEATURED THE STORY ON ITS FRONT PAGE WITH THE HEADLINE "SINAI TENSION SAID DEFUSED BY 'CORDIAL' BEGIN-GAMASY NOTES." THE STORY, BY ANAN SAFADI, QUOTES "WELL-PLACED INFORMANTS" AS VIEWING THE EXCHANGE AS "AN ENCOURAGING GESTURE" ON THE PART OF BOTH BEGIN AND GAMASY. THE INFORMANTS CITED GAMASY'S SWIFT REPLY AS NOTEWORTHY.
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4. ALTHOUGH SAYING THAT OFFICIAL JERUSALEM WOULD NOT DISCLOSE DETAILS OF THE MESSAGES, SAFADI CLAIMS THAT GAMASY ASSURED BEGIN THAT "EGYPT WAS ABIDING BY THE PRINCIPLES OF THE AGREEMENT," ADDING THAT "HE AGREED THAT VIOLATIONS SHOULD BE PREVENTED AND THAT THE PARTIES SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING PEACE." ACCORDING TO SAFADI, GAMASY SAID ISRAEL WAS MISTAKEN IN ITS CLAIM THAT EGYPT WAS MAINTAINING THOUSANDS OF TROOPS MORE THAN ALLOWED BY THE AGREEMENT ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE CANAL. HOWEVER, GAMASY REPORTEDLY PROMISED TO SETTLE THE CONTROVERSY THROUGH UN OBSERVER CHANNELS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE EMBASSY, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE MFA'S NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION (BAVLI) WAS NONCHALENT ABOUT THE EXCHANGE, DOWN-PLAYING ITS SIGNIFICANCE. HE HAD NOT SEEN EITHER MESSAGE BUT KNEW THAT BEGIN HAD ASKED GAMASY IF HE DID NOT AGREE THAT THE TERMS OF SINAI II SHOULD BE

SCRUPUOUSLY OBSERVED. ANOTHER POINT BEGIN MADE,
ACCORDING TO BABLI: SHOULD EGYPT BELIEVE ISRAEL
TO BE IN VIOLATION OF THE AGREEMENT, THE GOI
WOULD WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT IMMEDIATELY.
LEWIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY VIOLATION, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TELAV05026
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770245-1278
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770769/aaaacilz.tel
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Litigation History:
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TAGS: PBOR, EG, IS, (BEGIN, MENAHEM), (AL-GAMASY, MUHAMMAD ABD AL-GHANI)
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